

World Autism Awareness Day

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Three of our students carried out some research in this annual event.



This day is on the 2nd April. On this special day, people raise money for the autistic people around the world so they can have better facilities. I'm sure most of you are wondering how autism was discovered and why they haven't found a cure. Well, we'll be starting off by giving you some background history about this topic.

Eugen Bleuler was the first man to use the Greek term 'autos', meaning 'self'. In the 1940s the people of USA started using this term to describe children with emotional or social problems. Then Hans Asperger was investigating a form of ASD now known as Asperger syndrome, though for various reasons it was not widely recognized as a separate diagnosis until 1981. Hans Asperger was the Austrian pediatrician after whom Asperger's Syndrome is named after. Asperger called children with AS "little professors," because of their ability to talk about their favorite subject in great detail. Though he realized they were clumsy and he noticed the patterns of their behavior. Ironically, as a child Hans Asperger appears to have shown features of the condition named after him. He was described as an isolated and lonely child, who had struggle making friends.

The difference between Asperger and autism is that a diagnosis of autism requires that, early in development, the child had delayed language whereas in Asperger's, the child did not show a significant delay in language development.

You may have heard of Rosie- She was born with autism and her brother and sisters also have severe autism. Despite her struggles to fit in school and her problems with her siblings she still stayed determined. Now she is the narrator of her own special programme called "My autism and me" where she tells her story and other children's who have autism. Also, her mother has written a published book where she was the illustrator.

Autism can make you feel out of place but you should never feel different and isolated. There is always someone to talk to so never feel alone. Work hard and achieve your dreams.